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Patent
Attorney Docket No. ECON.10003NP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Janel E. YOUNG et al.	Mail Stop: Amendment
Application No.: 10/714,719	Group Art Unit: 1618
Filing or 371(c) Date: November 17, 2003	Examiner: Blessing M. Fubara
Title: Drug Enhanced Adhesion Prevention	Confirmation No.: 2358

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In complete response to the Restriction Requirement mailed February 8, 2007, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, claims 1-13 for prosecution in the present application.

The Restriction Requirement required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

Group I: Claims 1-13, drawn to method for inhibiting post-operative adhesion, classified in class 424, subclass 445; and

Group II: Claims 14-39, drawn to delivery vehicle/product, classified in class 424, subclass 450.

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement and the species election requirement and provisionally elect the subject matter of Group I, presented in claims 1-13, drawn to methods for inhibiting post-operative adhesion, and further elect single dose as the species for further prosecution. However, Applicants submit that the Patent Office has not proven that the search and examination of the entire application would impose an undue burden. Applicants submit that the complete examination would be handled most expeditiously by treating all of the pending claims as a single entity. As MPEP 803 directs, "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden,

Application No.: 10/714,719

Attorney Docket No. ECON.10003NP
Page 2 of 2

the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions." Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has not shown that a search and examination of the entire application would cause a serious burden. Rather, a serious burden would arise if the application were restricted.

The claims from Group 1 readable upon the elected species are claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, and 13. At least claim 1 from Group 1 is generic to the elected species – single dose.

If any questions remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

HUTCHISON LAW GROUP PLLC

Date: April 9, 2007

By: 

Thomas E. Holsten

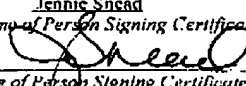
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Jennie Sneed

(Typed Name of Person Signing Certificate)


(Signature of Person Signing Certificate)

Date of Signing: April 9, 2007